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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/261,017	03/02/1999	HEIKKI KOKKINEN	915.333	7220

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EXAMINER

BOAKYE, ALEXANDER O

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2667

DATE MAILED: 12/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/261,017

Applicant(s)

KOKKINEN, HEIKKI

Examiner

ALEXANDER BOAKYE

Art Unit

2667

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8,10 and 11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

1. The indicated allowability of claim 9 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Sawyer et al. (US Patent # 5,6058,115). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sawyer et al. (US Patent # 6,058,115).

Regarding claim 9, Sawyer teaches communication system (Fig. 3), comprising a signaling unit and a network interface (column 4, lines 44-45; the claimed signaling unit reads on DSP 72 of Fig. 3 and the claimed network interface corresponds to PCM interface of Fig. 3 blocks 87 and 87 respectively), characterized in that it is equipped so as to use in a signaling connection with a central unit of a communication system ( the central unit is contained at the PSTN block 91 of Fig. 3) at least one signaling protocol, to which end it comprises means for indicating to the central unit, in response to a message sent by the central unit, the capability of the terminal of supporting a particular signaling protocol (column 7, lines 26-30) , and establishing via a network interface in the terminal a signaling connection between a signaling unit in the terminal and the

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central unit, using a signaling protocol supported by the terminal (column 7, lines 26-36).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1, 3, 4-11, 6-8 are allowable.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: As to claims 1, 3-5, the prior art of record does not teach a message (201) is sent from the central unit's network interface (107) to the terminal, indicating the signaling protocols supported by the central unit, in response to an answer message (202) sent by the terminal indicating the terminal's selection for signaling protocol, a connection is established (203, 204) between the central unit's network interface(107) and the central unit's signaling unit (105) that supports the signaling protocol chosen by the terminal.

As to claims 6 and 7, the prior art of record does not teach in response to a message (201) sent by the central unit's network interface (107) indicating the signaling protocols supported by the central unit, an answer message (202) is sent from the terminal's interface (109) indicating the signaling protocol selected by the terminal when the terminal supports a signaling protocol mentioned in the message, or the incapability of the terminal of supporting a protocol indicated in the message when the terminal does not support any one of the signaling protocols mentioned in the message.

As to 8, the prior art of record does not teach a signaling unit selected by the central unit, the central unit being adapted to select a signaling unit after having received the indication from the terminal.

As to claims 10 and 11, the prior art of record does not teach in the central unit, means for indicating to the terminal the signaling protocols supported by the central unit and means for setting up via the central unit's network interface a signaling connection using a selected signaling protocol between the central unit's signaling unit and the terminals, and in the terminal, means for indicating to the central unit the capability of the terminal of supporting a particular signaling protocol in response to a message sent by the central unit. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Boakye whose telephone number is (571) 272-3183. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30am to 6:00pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham, can be reached on (571) 272-3179. The fax number (703) 872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application of proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

Alexander Boakye

Patent Examiner

AB

11/29

  
CHI PHAM  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800 12/6/09